

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image pickup apparatus taking a first image including only a background but not an object and a second image including the object, and having a shutter button pressed for releasing a shutter, comprising:
a time measuring portion (2) measuring a time after said shutter
5 button is pressed; and
an output selecting portion (3) outputting an image taken when a first period of time is measured by said time measuring portion as one of said first and second images, and outputting an image taken when a second period of time is further measured by said time measuring portion after the
10 first period of time as the other of said first and second images.

2. The image pickup apparatus according to claim 1, further, comprising:
a region extracting portion (5) using said first and second images for outputting information of an object region of said second image; and
5 a recording portion (8) recording data of positional information of said object region, and one of said second image data and image data included in said object region onto a recording medium.

3. The image pickup apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a region extracting portion (5) using said first and second images for outputting positional information of an object region of said second image;

5 an image composing portion (11) replacing an image in a region other than said object region of said second image with a prepared background image; and

a recording portion (8) recording data of the image composed by said image composing portion onto a recording medium.

4. The image pickup apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said first image is updated by using an image of a region other than the object region of said second image every time a prescribed period is elapsed.

5. The image pickup apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said first image is updated by using an image of a region other than the object region of said second image every time a prescribed period is elapsed.

6. The image pickup apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a recording portion (8) recording the data of said first image and second image onto a recording medium.

7. The image pickup apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a notifying portion (9) notifying a timing at which pickup of said first image is finished and a timing at which pickup of said second image is started.

8. The image pickup apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said recording portion (8) records said data in a compressed form.

9. The image pickup apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said recording portion (8) records said data in a compressed form.